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with this in view. Dr. Sachs contributes such a study of the brain of a child two years old. Besides simplicity of fissuration, etc., there were found, on microscopical examination, scarcely any pyramidal cells, either large or small, in normal condition. The author is of the opinion that the changes were those of simple arrested development, not those caused by inflammation. The cause of the arrest is not assigned, but the fact that the mother was thrown from a carriage during pregnancy, though she was uninjured, is not to be left out of consideration.

Somnambules Zeichnen. GUSTAV GESSMANN. Sphinx, August, 1888.

This paper, originally communicated to the *Psychologische Gesellschaft*, of Munich, presents the case of a somnambule artist and gives two reproductions of his work. The artist is a young man of the better class, and has frequently been observed, it is said, by noted physicians of Vienna and practiced observers who testify to the genuineness of his state while making the drawings. His glance at these times is peculiar; his right arm is stiff and cold and frequently convulsed as in cramp. This continues several minutes, when, suddenly snatching paper and pencil, he begins to draw. He generally makes heads or landscapes of a weird or mystical character. He draws rapidly, apparently not sketching an outline, but hatching the surface over with tangled zigzag lines in which the picture gradually takes form. A head which is reproduced, and by the way would answer well for Lear in the storm, was made in an hour and ten minutes of constant work. The other reproduction, of allegorical significance and hardly to be described, took three hours. In it there is certain lettering which can be made to spell out the stanza:

“Mensch lebe fromm,
Es ist so Gottes Wille.
Er lenket stets die Welt,
Wenn auch in aller Stille.”

According to his own account this picture was produced under the influence of a dead painter named Seleny, who has also communicated to him at a later sitting much about its signification, which, however, would not be of interest without the picture. The editor of *Sphinx* notes the similarity to the paranoiac designs in the last number of this journal.

Traumatic Insanities and Traumatic Recoveries. SELDEN H. TALCOTT. Am. Jour. Insan., July, 1888.

This paper, which was among those read before the association of Asylum Superintendents, in May, gives two cases of insanity and two of recovery traumatically caused. The first case is interesting psychologically. A lad of eighteen fell twenty-six feet, striking the back of his head. He was unconscious for a few hours, but only in bed one day. He had dull pain for a time at the base of the brain and down his back; this, however, was gone at the time of his commitment to the asylum, and he seemed otherwise physically sound. In the six weeks previous, however, he had spoken only two or three words, though he could converse easily in writing. He wrote that all spoken words sounded to him like noise without meaning.